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MID-WEEK PICTORIAL

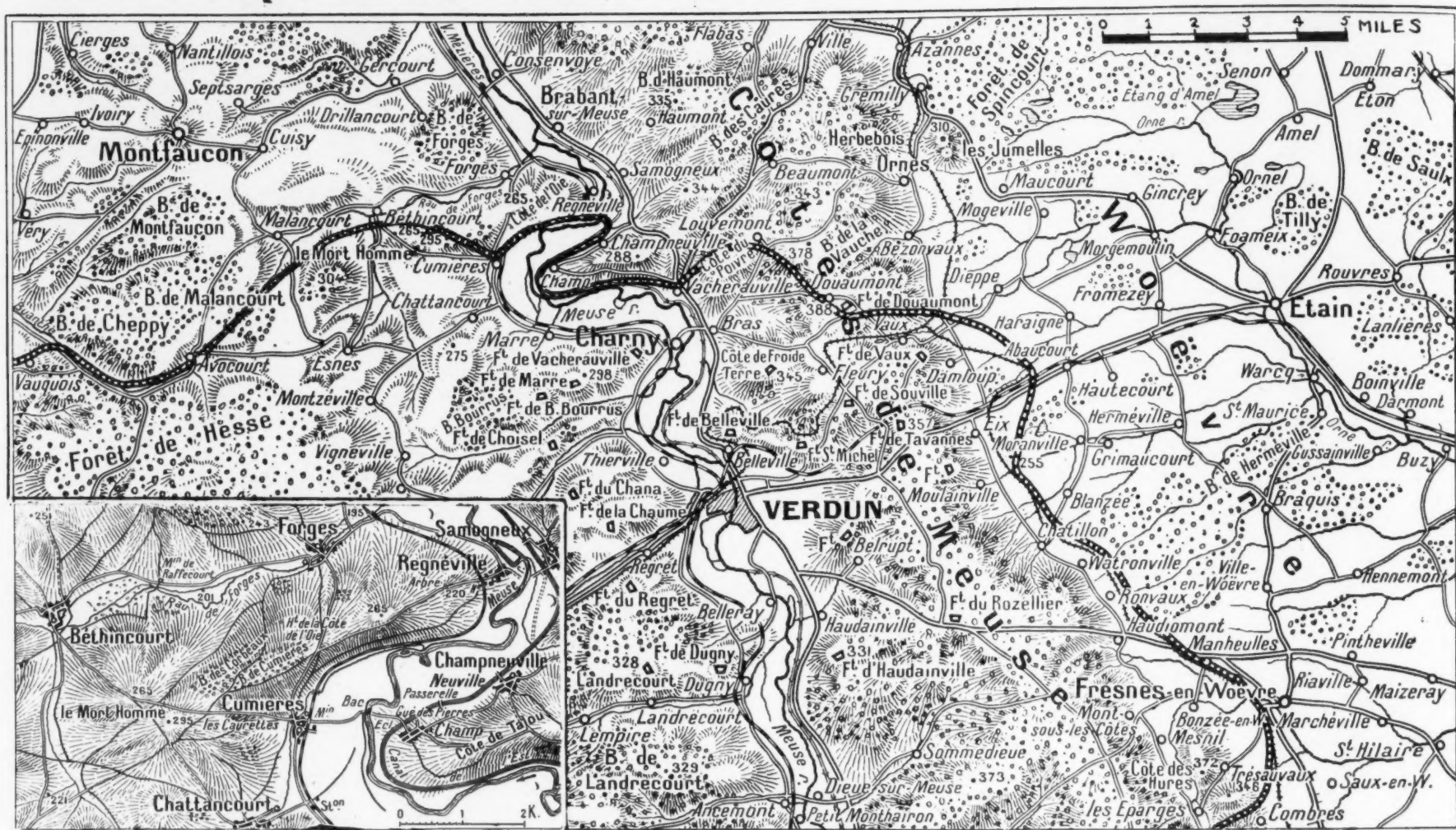
*Many Remarkable
Pictures from
the Great
Verdun
Battle*



*War
Scenes from
Asia, Africa,
and Europe*

The Shattered Foot of the Meuse Hills and Beginning of the Woevre Plain, Verdun Battle Front
(© Underwood & Underwood)

News Maps of the Week: Around Verdun—Below Bagdad



The large map shows the battle line on April 17 around Verdun, where the greatest battle of the war is now in its ninth week. The latest fighting has been on the arc running from the west of Hill 304 to Cumières, and on the crest between Douaumont and Vaux, east of the Meuse, where the official

reports indicate but little change. The small inset map shows in greater detail the district between Cumières and Bethincourt, with the famous "Dead Man's Hill," fighting for the possession of which has been a feature of the battle for some weeks.

THE SITUATION

(Week ending April 17, 1916)

SINCE the withdrawal of the French from Bethincourt a week ago there has been little change in the war situation, though activities are reported from every front. In all three of the Verdun sectors the Germans are now up against the major French defenses—Hill 304, Pepper Heights, and the Vaux-Douaumont Ridge. Whatever advance they make from this time forth must be paid for at a still heavier price.

Increasing activity is developing in the British trenches in France. Large casualty lists each day indicate that important events may be pending. Whether the Germans are beginning a new drive toward Calais, or whether the long-heralded British offensive is developing, the next few weeks are likely to furnish something of interest.

After a long silence the fact is revealed that the Russians in Asia Minor have been meeting with serious resistance from the Turks east of Trebi-

zond and all the way south to Bitlis. Scanty news of a six days' battle west of Erzerum tells of a Russian victory, and the Grand Duke's forces are said to have resumed their advance.

The British relief force on the Tigris also has been active, both giving and receiving blows. After taking the Turkish entrenched position at Umm-el-Henna and capturing the town of Felahie, General Lake's men have reached Sannayat and are steadily fighting their way up the right bank

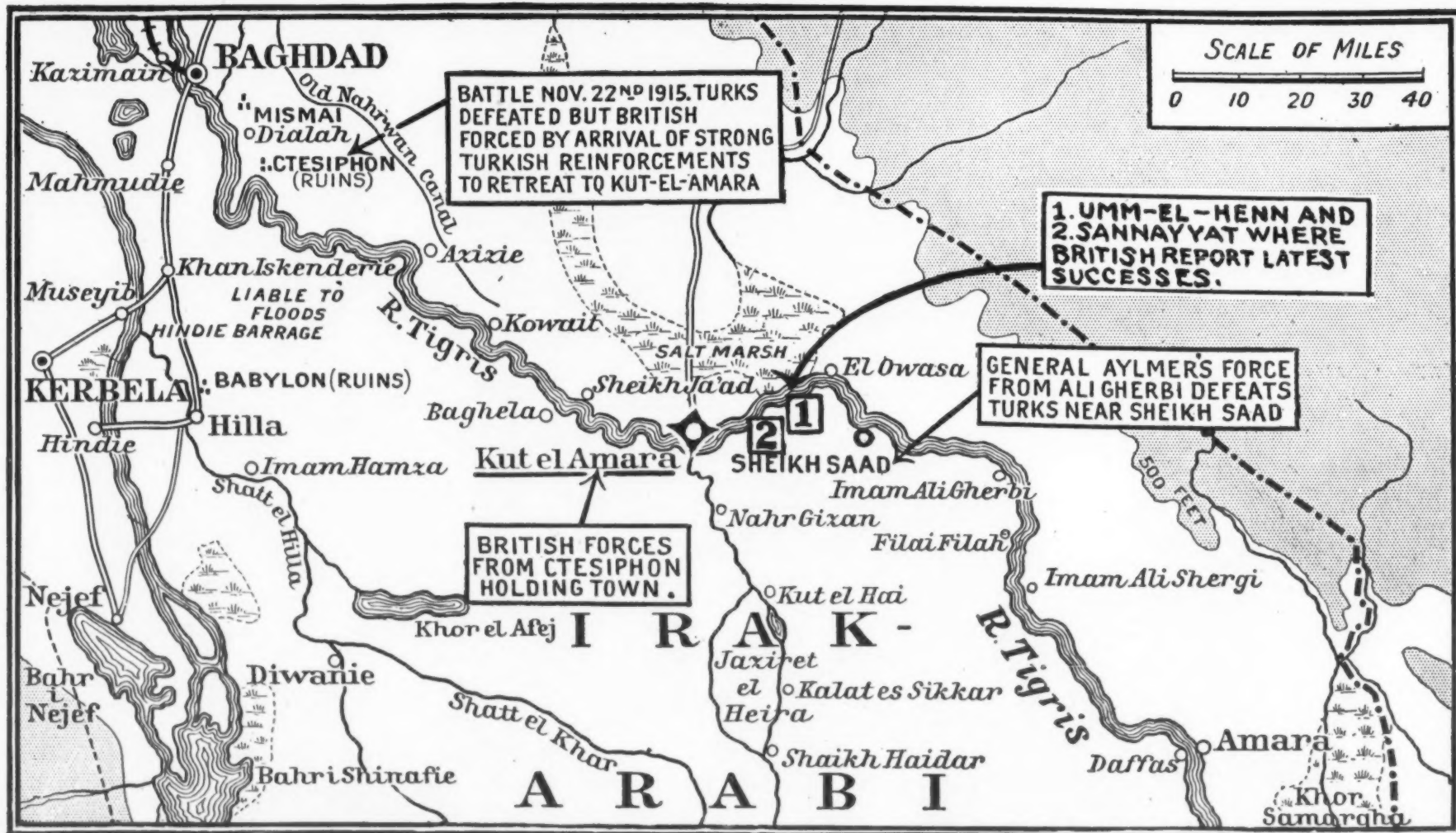
toward General Townshend's beleaguered force at Kut-el-Amara.

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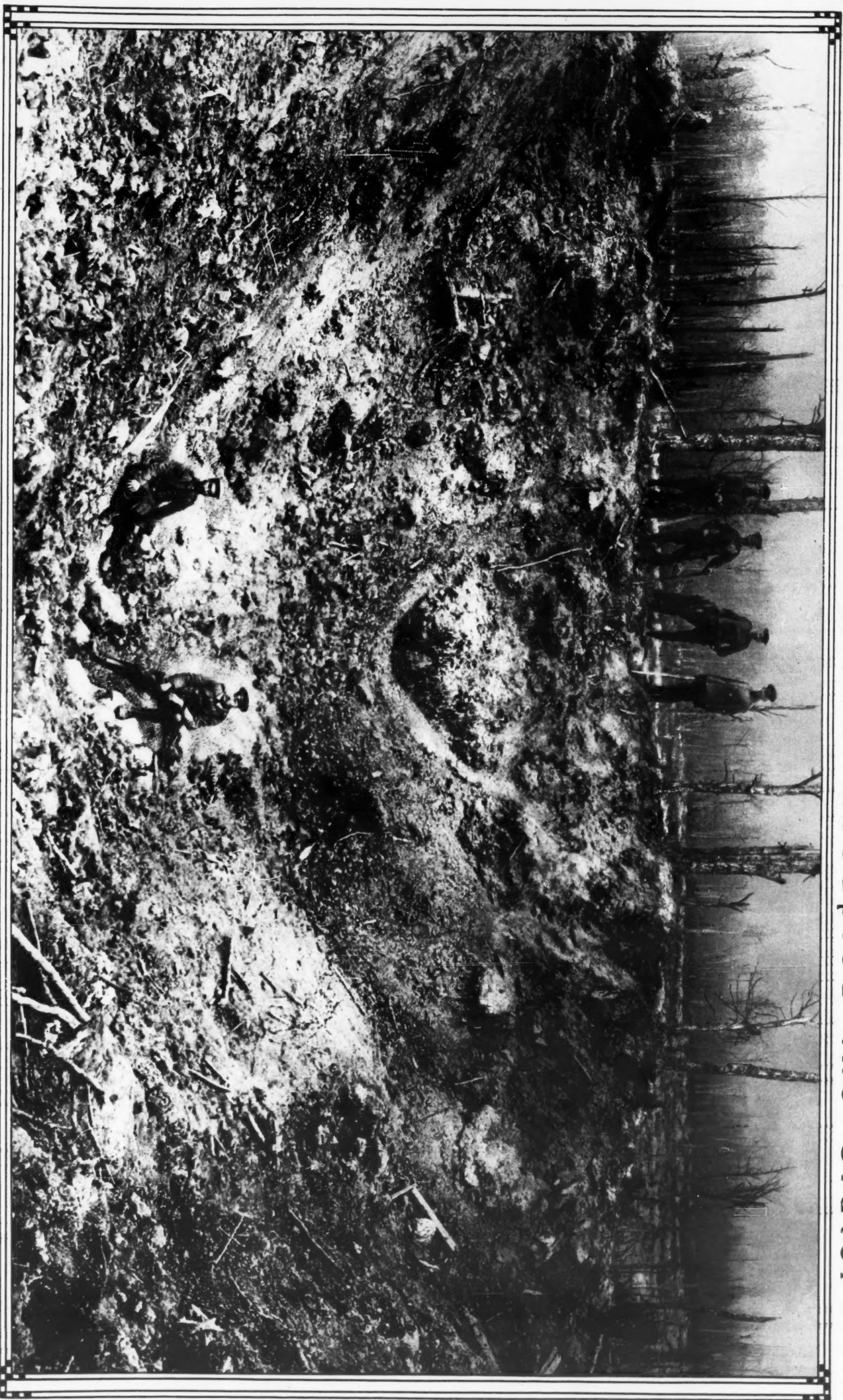
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Kut-el-Amara, on the Tigris, is the point where General Townshend's army has been besieged by the Turkish forces since last December. El Owassa is the position reached and occupied by the British relief force, (formerly under General Aylmer, now under General Goringe,) which has

been held there by the flood condition of the river which inundated both banks. During the last week the offensive has been resumed and positions on both banks occupied in the course of a slow progress toward Kut-el-Amara and the besieged British main force.

"We Exploded a Mine and Occupied the Crater"



This picture affords a graphic illustration of the terrific havoc caused by the explosion of an underground mine on the battlefield. This spot was once a portion of a French

trench; the Germans mined beneath it, and after the explosion occupied the position, in which some of the officers have been photographed.

(Underwood & Underwood.)

Scenes of Desolation Around the



What was once a beautiful forest in the Regneville district; in the left of the photograph may be seen a communicating trench reached by rustic footpaths.



To build anew their shattered defenses: French soldiers bearing on their shoulders bundles of barbed wire to protect the new trenches with which they will replace those destroyed.

(Photos © by

Once Beautiful Verdun Territory



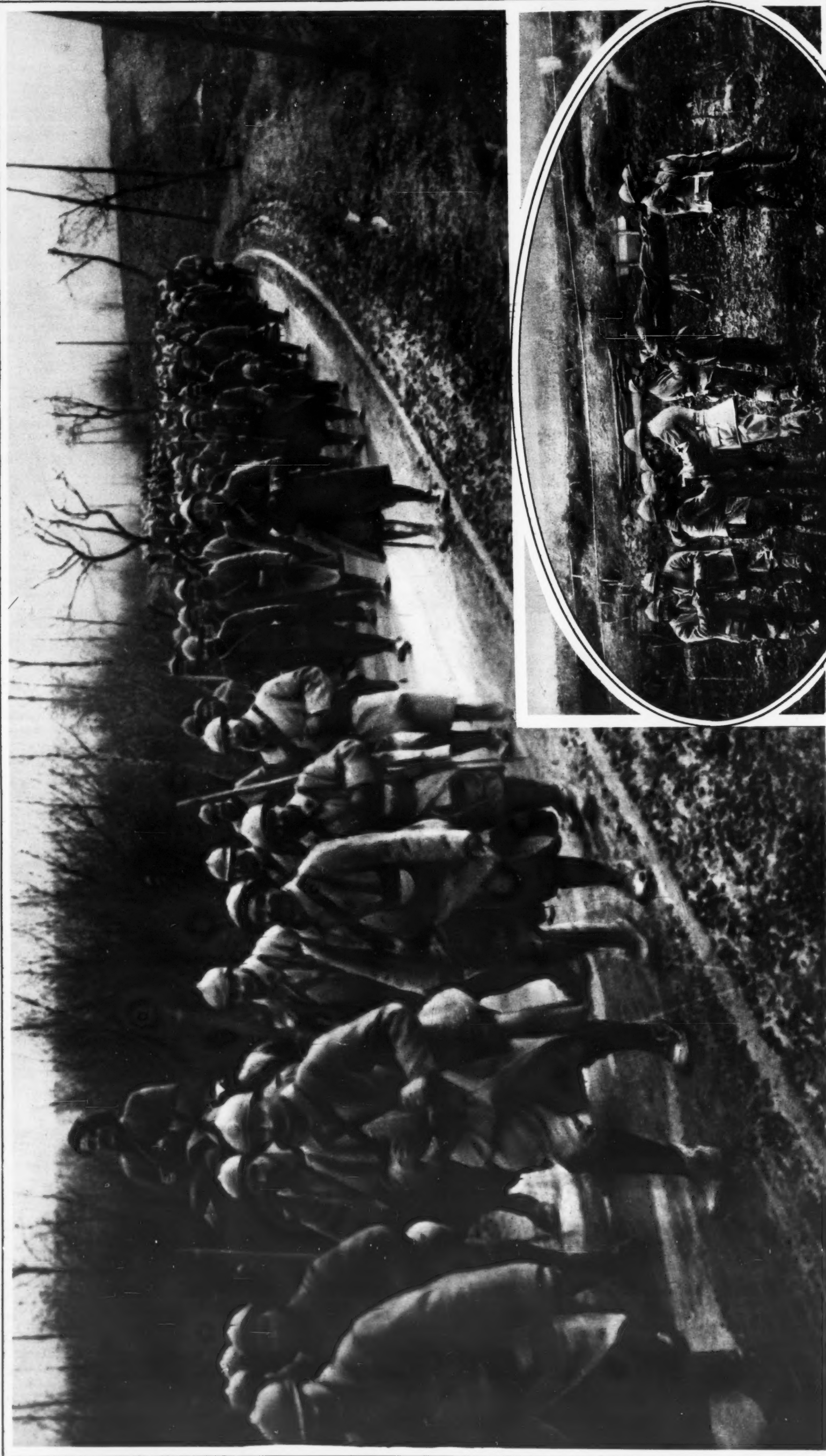
The dismal aspect of a slope in the Heights of the Meuse after one month of the battle of Verdun; the ground is almost impassable from fallen trees and shell pits.



Calmy waiting for the signal to charge with the bayonet on top of a hill in the Meuse Heights after their trenches had been destroyed by many hours' bombardment.

Underwood & Underwood.)

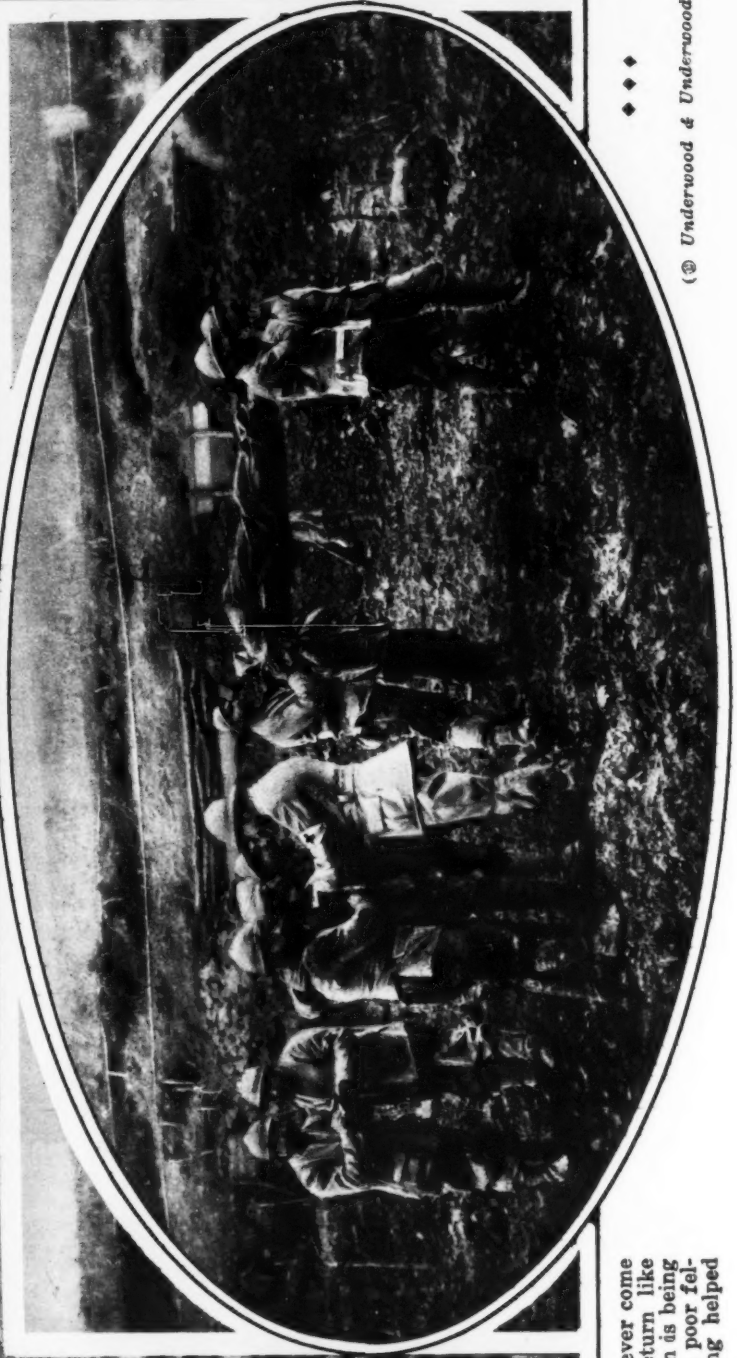
French Infantry Lightheartedly Enter the Great Verdun Battle



A French infantry column stretching as far as the eye can see on a road in the vicinity of Verdun, toward which the troops are going, to take part in the great battle. The good spirits of these troops about to enter a desperate conflict is noticeable. (Official French Photo, from Woods.)



(In oval.) Some of the soldiers never come back from Verdun—and some return like this; in front a badly wounded man is being borne on stretchers; behind him a poor fellow who has been blinded is being helped along by two comrades.



(© Underwood & Underwood.)

With Private—and Chief on the French Verdun Front



French infantrymen gathered at a "tea room" on the front near Eparges, southwest of Verdun. The sign over the shelter reads: "Eparges Tea Room, open all night; one is requested to bring his own cup."



General Dubail—the single figure in the centre with cap and muffler—holding a conference of French officers at the battle of Verdun, at which conflict he is one of the leading figures.
(Photographs © Underwood & Underwood.)

Protected by Rock and Sand Bags: How Men



French officers studying maps in a commander's post strongly protected with rock and sand bags.



One of the *cagnas* or soldiers' bomb-proof houses around Verdun, of which the French have built a number.

May Survive the Terrific Verdun Bombardments



Peaceful occupations while under bombardment; French soldiers in a *cantonement de repos* near Verdun.



In excellent humor behind their sand-bag fortifications while awaiting the expected attack by the Germans.

□ How the Germans Are Preparing for a Russian Offensive □



Men of the German engineer corps constructing new and more formidable defenses in the East in place of the old Russian fortifications which they captured last Fall.
(Underwood & Underwood.)

In Albania, Where Many Factions Are at War



Native Albanian scouts on the lookout for the enemy patrol; the costume shown is typical of the native soldiery.
(© Universal Press Syndicate.)



An Albanian colony on the Drina unaffected by the warfare around it; one of the principal native industries is basket weaving.
(© International Film Service.)

French Paintings Show World

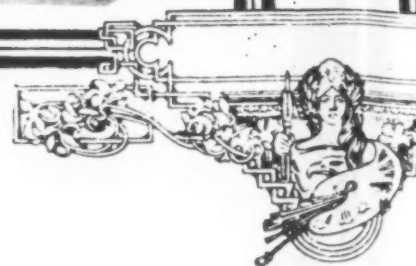


An Encounter of Patrols.

From the Painting by Georges Scott.

The artist has shown the death struggle between a Frenchman and a German, both on sentry duty, when an unexpected meeting has brought them together in the night.

(Published by Arrangement with L'Illustration, Paris, © 1916.)



Work of Sentry and Scout



The Return from a Difficult Mission.

From the Painting by Ch. Legrand.

There is an appeal to patriotism in this pathetic but stirring figure of the lone scout returning, exhausted but content, from the successful execution of some military service of more than the usual danger and difficulty.

Will Bagdad Fall Prize to British or Russians?



A view from the Tigris River of the ancient capital on its banks, for which both British and Russian armies are now contending.



Where Persian, Turk, and Arab commingle—the main street at Bagdad.

(Photos from R. Sennecke, Berlin.)

Back from the Front Is England's Heir



The Prince of Wales, recently returned from the French front, photographed before the Houses of Parliament in London after he had just opened a rifle range in their vaults, where the members of Parliament will be taught to shoot.

(Photo from Janet Cummings.)

Austrian Pictures Show Russian Losses



This Austrian War Department photograph shows a Russian trench which has recently been stormed by Austro-Hungarian troops.

(Photo from Underwood & Underwood.)



This photograph was made by an Austrian officer to show the bodies of Russian soldiers caught and killed in the barbed wire defenses of an Austrian position which they were attempting to storm.

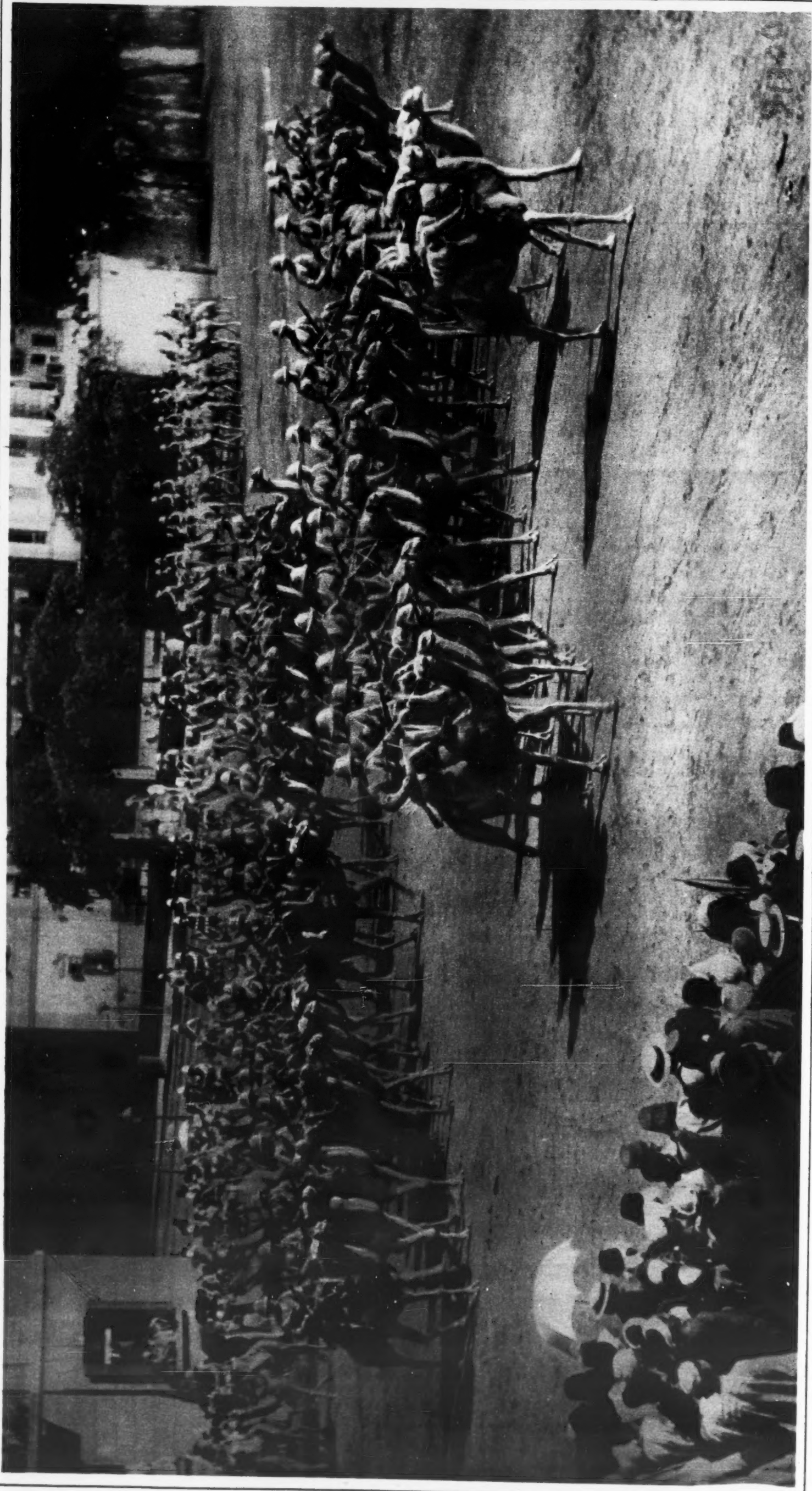
(Press Illustrating Co.)

In the Trenches With the African Corps



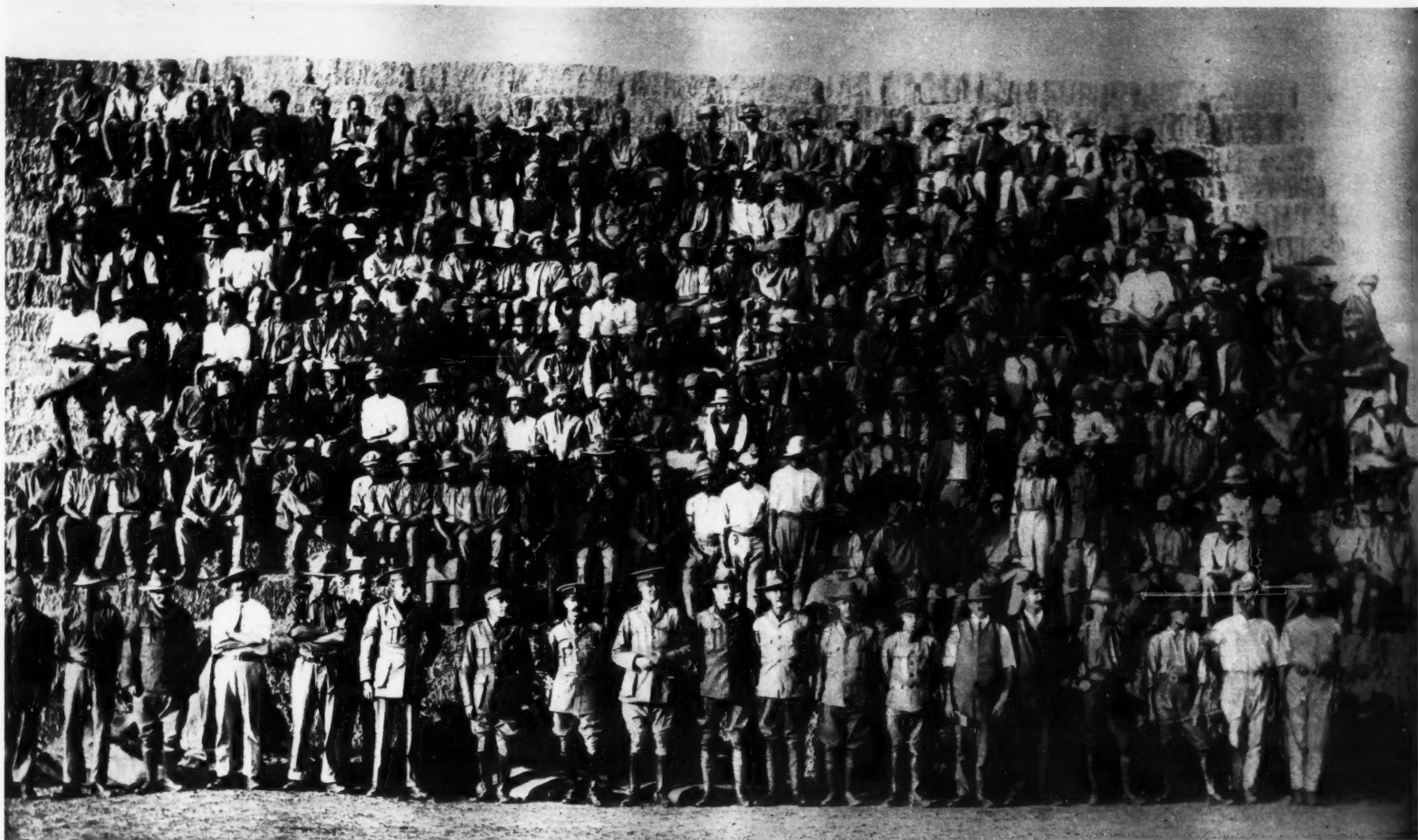
African troops enlisted under the French colors; they have been transported to the Orient, where they are seen in trenches prepared in anticipation of a Turko-German offensive.
(Official French Photo, from Underwood & Underwood.)

Men of the Camel Corps Off for the Front

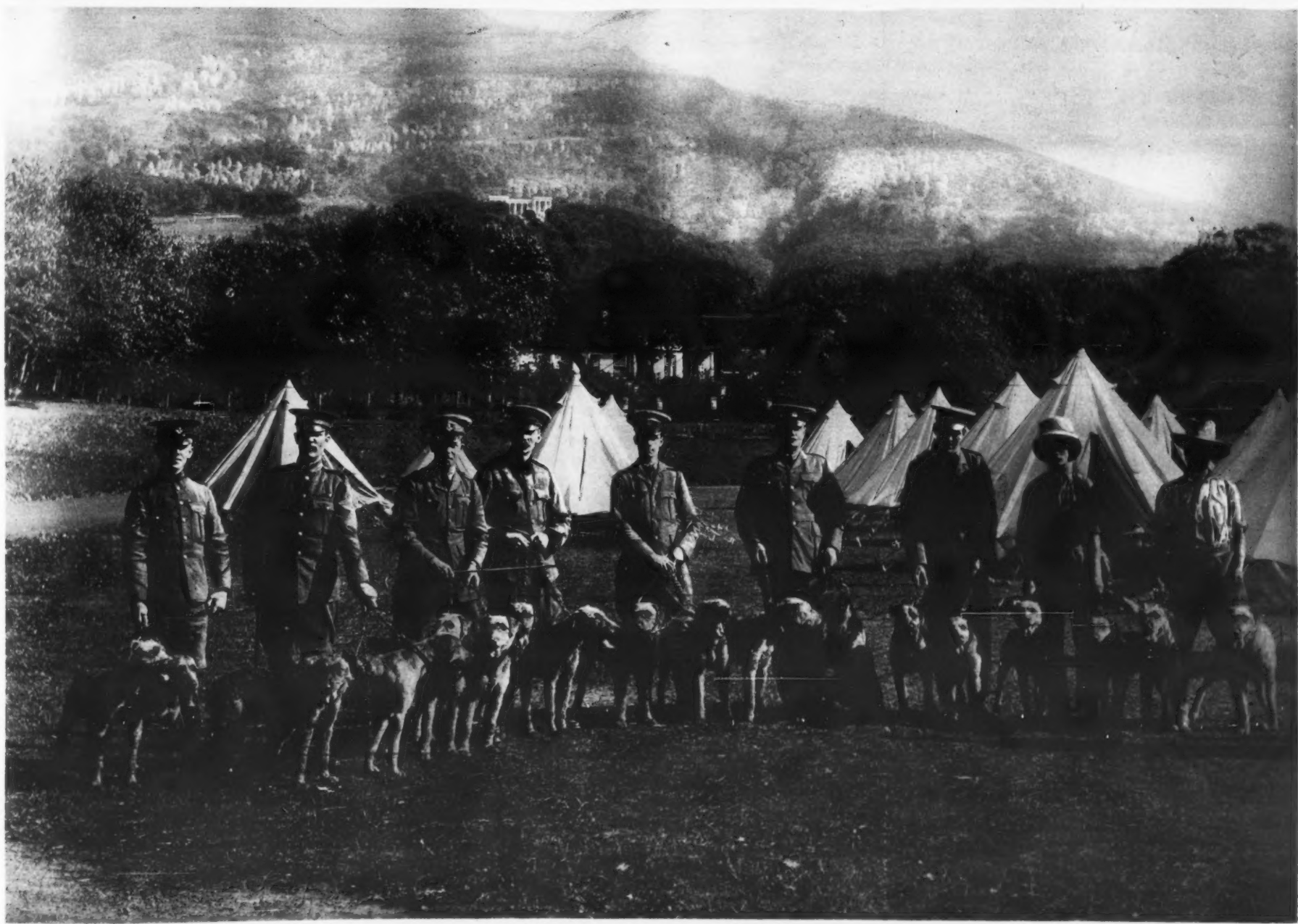


PART OF ONE OF THE BRITISH CAMEL REGIMENTS ORGANIZED IN CAIRO LEAVING FOR A STATION ALONG THE SUEZ CANAL FRONT.
(Photo © Underwood & Underwood.)

British Dogs of War in South Africa

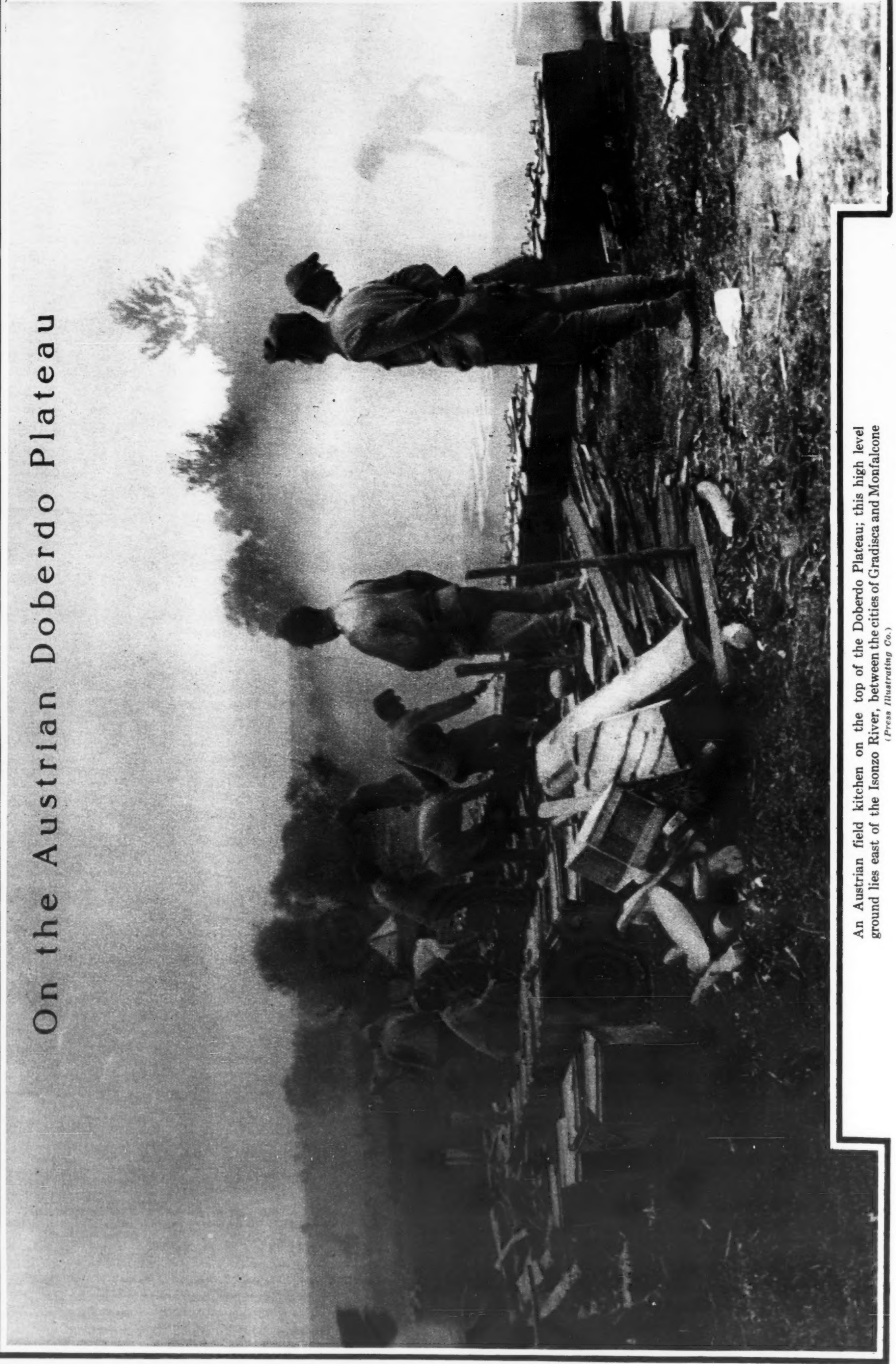


Officers and staff of the South African Service Corps grouped against a huge stack of lucerne—the native hay—with the colored porters of the corps seated above.



These dogs were used in the campaign which resulted in the British conquest of German Southwest Africa.
(Photos from Press Illustrating Co.)

On the Austrian Doberdo Plateau



An Austrian field kitchen on the top of the Doberdo Plateau; this high level ground lies east of the Isonzo River, between the cities of Gradisca and Monfalcone

(Press Illustrating Co.)



Bridge across a tributary river in the Dwina valley destroyed in the course of fighting between the Germans and the Russians; in the background may be seen an army transport column. (Feature Photo Service.)

Along the River Dwina, Where Kuropatkin Faces Hindenburg

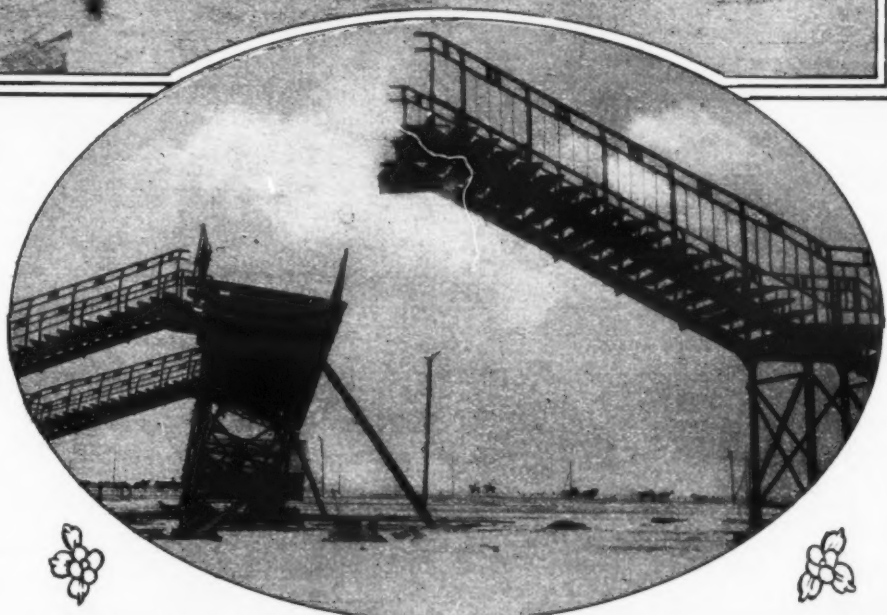
By Charles Johnston

FOR many months the River Dwina has been the dividing line between the battling forces on the northern Russian front. By analogy with the battle of the Marne and the battle of the Aisne we may call the great struggle between Field Marshal von Hindenburg on the one side and first General Ruzski and now General Kuropatkin on the other, the battle of the Dwina. It will be interesting and valuable, therefore, to take the aeroplane of fancy and make an excursion along this now world-famous river, soaring over the trenches and the contending battle lines.

The whole face of the country through which the Dwina runs—the region called “the Baltic provinces,” or, in Russian, “the East Sea provinces”—owes its character to the tremendous work of glaciers which, taking their origin on the huge backbone of the Scandinavian peninsula—then covered by an ice sheet more than a mile thick, just as Greenland is now—slid southward and eastward over Finland, over what is now the Baltic Sea, and over the whole region about the Dwina; scooping out the depressions which afterward became the innumerable little lakes, both in Finland and in the Baltic provinces—lakes that, on a large-scale map, make the country look as if it had been bombarded with a hail of shrapnel bullets.

In the country southeast of the Baltic, thus scored and scooped and mud laden, there are certain groups of low hills or plateaus, like the very modest altitudes of the Valdai Hills, which would hardly be noticed in a country less flat than the vast Russian plain; the plateau, of only a few hundred feet high, north of the lower Dwina, which oddly bears the name of “the Livonian Switzerland,” and the plateau between the wide, shallow Gulf of Riga and the Prussian frontier. But most of the land is a wide space of glacial mud, which in Spring becomes a continuous sponge of soft, soaking earth.

The River Dwina itself rises on the western edge of the Volkhonski Forest, in the Tver marshes; and less than fifteen miles away, separated from the Dwina springs only by a low wrinkle of land, rises the Volga, which ultimately finds its way to the far-distant waters of the salt Caspian Sea. At its source the Dwina is only a rivulet trickling through a bog; then it enters the deep Lake Okhvat, from which it comes forth a considerable river; then, after a course of rapids and low waterfalls, it absorbs two other lakes, and gradually becomes navigable for lumber rafts from the vast pine forests and for barges laden in the Autumn with cargoes of wheat and rye. There are a good many moderate-sized towns on its banks from this point downward; towns nourishing and nourished by the river-borne commerce, such as Veliz, Vitebsk, where the river turns at right angles and bends up toward Riga, Polotsk, Dwinsk, Riga, and Dwina Mouth, nine miles below Riga, where the river, after a course of some 600 miles, enters the sand-incumbered Gulf of Riga.



Bridge crossing the railroad yards of a small town in the Pines region destroyed by the Russians for military purposes; through the broken span may be seen the Russian cavalry patrol (Underwood & Underwood.)

The lower river is broken up by rapids, cascades, and rocky ridges; Czar Paul I., father of Alexander I. and Nicholas I., began the work of blasting and deepening the channel, which was continued intermittently through the first quarter of the nineteenth century, so that at present boats of considerable draught can go as far as Dwinsk, a city which has grown as rapidly within the last fifty years as some of our own boom towns in the West.

The region through which the Dwina runs is not Russian by race; it is not even Aryan, since it belongs ethnically to Finland; and much has been done of recent years to preserve the old Esthonian language of the Finnish branch, with its folk-lore and old pagan songs. South of these half-Finnish tribes come the Letts, whose tongue stands to the old Aryan Lithuanian in the same relation that Italian stands to Latin; this interesting tongue is now also being preserved, and has half a dozen small journals to represent it.

Coming from the Baltic Sea, German colonists have pressed upon the Esths and Letts since the twelfth century, founding Hanseatic towns like Revel and Riga, reducing the natives to servitude, and establishing a dominant Teu-

tonic landlord class and a closely united body of Teutonic merchants; these two classes having the whole region in their power, even under the political rule of Russia.

The songs of both the Finnish and the Lettish tribes are full of passionate protest against this German domination. “O Riga, Riga,” says one Esthonian song, “thou art fair, very fair! But what made thee fair?—The bondage of the Livonians!” And another runs thus: “Oh! had I but all the money sleeping beneath the waves, I would buy the castle of Riga, Germans and all, and treat them as they treated me; I would make them dance on hot stones!” Yet another song expresses the same passionate resentment: “Oh, my God, whither shall I flee? The woods are filled with wolves and bears, the fields are full of despots. Oh, my God, punish my father, punish my mother, who brought me into this land of bondage!”

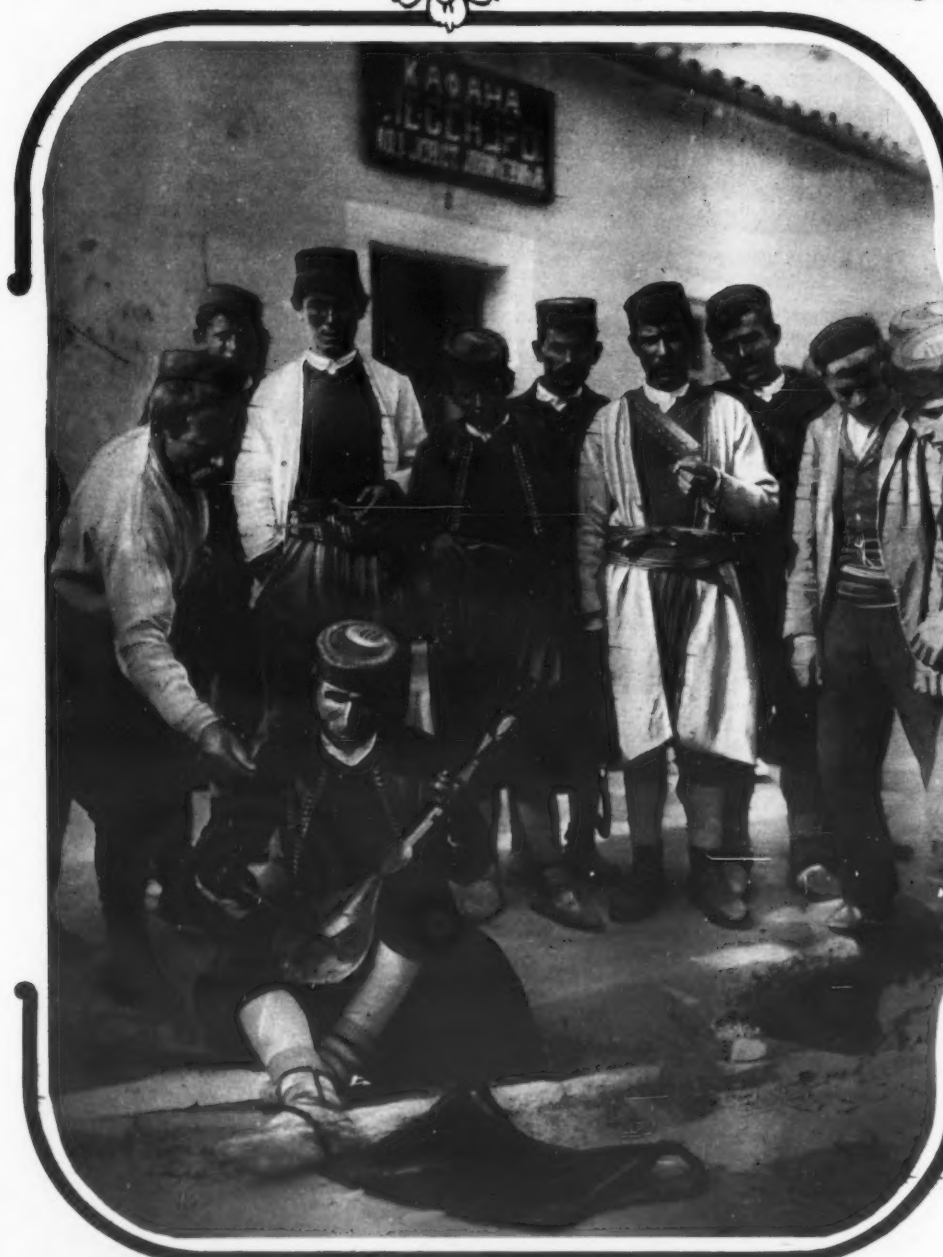
Some two centuries ago, through the wars of Peter the Great, this territory came under Russian rule. It would seem that the great struggle between Teuton and Russian must now be fought to a finish along the Dwina banks.

CHARLES JOHNSTON.

With Prince and Pauper of Stormy Montenegro



Montenegrin peasant women taking brushwood to the city for sale.



A blind beggar musician and his audience in the streets of Cetinje.
(Feature Photo Service.)



(At left.) Prince Peter of Montenegro, whose troops were beaten at Mt. Lovcen.

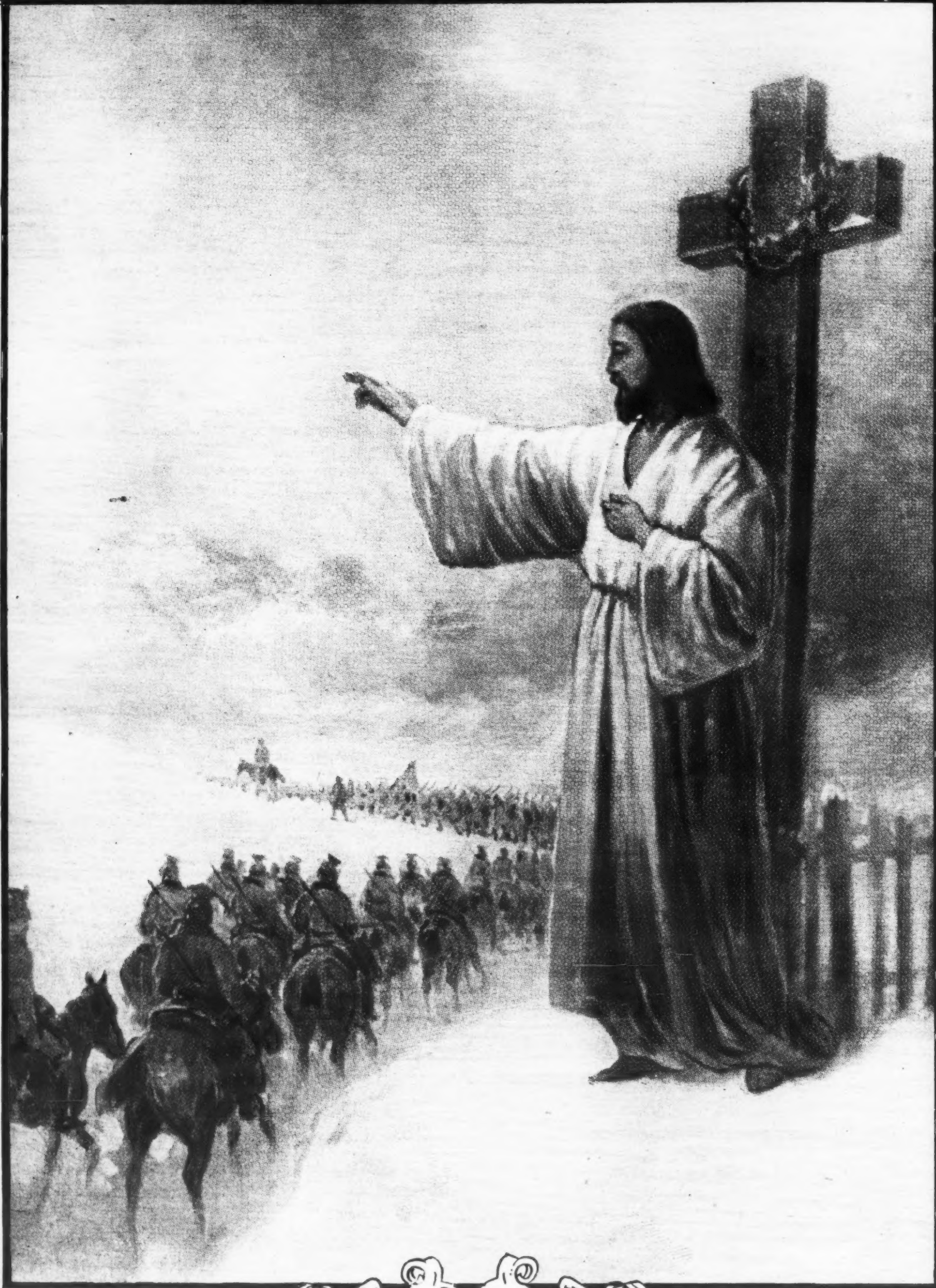
With the Kaiser and His Son at the Great Battle—A Dutch View



CROWN PRINCE: "WE MUST HAVE A HIGHER PILE TO SEE VERDUN, FATHER."
(Drawn by Louis Raemaekers of Holland.)

He Who Watcheth Over Warriors

A Religious Painting Which Is a
Popular War Postcard of Hungary



Great is the praise due the fighter!
Glory will come to his country!
God—our lips are whispering a prayer—
Hallowed be Thy name!

—Hungarian War Hymn.